Manual

of the

First Congregational Church,

Natick, Mass.

1898.

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FIRST

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH,

NATICK, MASS.

THE CONFESSION OF FAITH,

COVENANT, FORMS OF ADMISSION, ECCLESIASTICAL PRINCIPLES AND RULES,

AND

LIST OF MEMBERS.

JANUARY 1, 1898.

NATICK, MASS
THE BULLETIN PRESS,
1898.

CHURCH ORGANIZATION.

Officers 1897.

Pastor.

REV. F. E. STURGIS, D. D.

Deacons.

JOHN O. WILSON, ROBERT H. RANDALL,
JOHN R. ADAMS, CHARLES H. JONES,
FRANK M. FORBUSH.

Treasurer.

BERTHA L. RANDALL.

Clerk.

GEORGE L. BARTLETT.

Confession of Faith.

ARTICLE I. We believe in one only living and true God,[1] the Creator, Preserver and Governor of the universe,[2] a Spirit,[3] infinite, eternal and unchangeable in his being,[4] wisdom,[5] power,[6] holiness,[7] justice,[8] goodness,[9] truth[10] and love.[11]

[1]Deut. 6: 4. Isa. 44: 6. Jer. 10: 10. [2]Gen. 1. Neh. 9: 6. Ps. 22: 28. [3]Jo. 4: 24. Ps. 139: 7-12. [4]Ps. 90: 2. I Tim. 1: 17. Mal. 3: 6. [5]Ps. 147: 5. Rom. 16: 27. [6]Gen. 17: 1. Rev. 4: 8; 19: 6. [7]Isa. 6: 3. Ps. 99: 9. [8]Ps. 89: 14. Rev. 15: 3. [9]Matt. 19: 17. Ps. 145: 8, 9. [10]Deut. 32: 4. Ps. 100: 5. [11]I Jo. 4: 8, 16.

ART. II. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are given by inspiration of God;[1] and that they are the only perfect rule of religious faith and practice.[2]

[1]II Tim. 3: 16, 17. II Pet. 1: 21. Lk. 1: 70. Heb. 1: 1, 2. Gal. 1: 11, 12. [2]Ps. 119: 105. Lk. 24: 27, 44. II Ki. 17: 13. Rev. 22: 18, 19.

ART. III. We believe that God is revealed in the Scriptures as the Father, Son and Holy Ghost;[1] and that these three are one God,[2] and in all divine attributes equal.[3]

[1]Matt. 28: 19. II Cor. 13: 14. I Pet. 1: 2. Eph. 2: 18. [2]Isa. 9: 6; 44: 6. Jo. 10: 30; 14; 9. Acts 5: 3, 4. [3]Gen. 1: 1. Col. 1: 16-19. Jo. 5: 22, 23; 10: 15. Rev. 2: 23. Jer. 17: 10. Heb. 13: 8. I Cor. 12: 11.

ART. IV. We believe that our first parents were created holy,[1] but by transgressing the divine command,[2] they fell from their original state;[3] that in consequence

thereof all their posterity are personally involved in sin and death,[4] and until renewed by divine grace[5] are alienated from God[6] and destitute of holiness.[7]

[1]Gen. 1 : 27. Eccl. 7 : 29. [2]Gen. 2 : 17; 3 : 6, 17. [3]Gen. 3 : 23, 24; 6 : 5. [4]Rom. 5, 12, 19; 3 : 9-12. Eph. 2 : 3. [5]Eph. 2 : 1, 5. Col. 2 : 13. [6]Rom. 8 : 7. Col. 1 : 20, 21. Eph. 4 : 18. [7]Job 14 : 4. Tit. 3 : 5-7. II Cor. 7 : 1. Eph. 4 : 22-24.

ART. V. We believe that our Heavenly Father in His infinite love and mercy gave His Son to die for the sins of the world;[1] and that Jesus Christ by his obedience, sufferings and death has made an atonement sufficient for the redemption of all mankind;[2] so that pardon and eternal life are freely offered to all[3] upon condition of repentance toward God[4] and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.[5]

[1]Jo. 3 : 16. Rom. 5 : 8; 8 : 32. I Jo. 4 : 9. [2]Lev. 17 : 11. Isa. 53 : 2-12. Matt. 18 : 11; 26 : 28. Acts 20 : 28. Rom. 5 : 6-9. I Pet. 2 : 24. Heb. 2 : 9; 9 : 12-14; 13 : 20, 21. [3]Isa. 55 : 1-3. Matt. 11 : 28-30. Jo. 7 : 37. Rev. 3 : 20; 22 : 17. Jo. 5 : 40. [4]Acts 2 : 38; 3 : 19; 20 : 21. Lk. 13; 3, 5. [5]Acts 13 : 39. Gal. 2 : 16; 3 : 22-24.

ART. VI. We believe that all men must be born again by the Holy Spirit, in order to salvation,[1] and that this new birth is a radical change of the moral character,[2] by which men, from being enemies, become the friends of God and holiness.[3]

[1]I Cor. 2 : 14. Matt. 18 : 3. Jo. 1 : 12, 13; 3 : 3, 5-7. I Pet. 1 : 22, 23. [2]Ezek. 36 : 25-27. Gal. 6 : 15. II Cor. 5 : 17. Eph. 4 : 22, 23. Rom. 2 : 28, 29. [3]Eph. 2 : 13-19. II Cor. 5 : 18, 19 Rom. 5 : 10. Col. 1 : 20-22.

ART. VII. We believe that those who are truly converted from sin to holiness,[1] being renewed by the Holy Spirit,[2] and justified by faith in Christ,[3] according to

the eternal purpose of the Father,[4] will be kept by His power, through faith, unto salvation.[5]

[1]Ezek. 14: 6. Jo. 8: 13. [2]Tit. 3: 5. Jo. 3: 5, 6. [3]Rom. 3: 26, 28. I Cor. 6: 11. [4]Isa. 46: 9, 10. Eph. 1: 4-6, 11; 3: 11. Jo. 15: 16, 19. Rom. 8: 28-30. II Thes. 2: 13. I Pet. 1: 2. [5]Prov. 4: 18. Jer. 32: 40. Jo. 5: 24; 10: 27-29. Rom. 8: 38, 39. I Pet. 1: 3-5, 9. Phil. 1: 6; 2: 12, 13.

ART. VIII. We believe in the immortality of the soul,[1] in the resurrection of the dead,[2] and in a final judgment;[3] and that the wicked will go away into everlasting punishment,[4] but the righteous into life eternal.[5]

[1]Gen. 1: 27. Mat. 25: 46. I Cor. 15: 53, 54. II Tim. 1: 10. [2]Dan. 12: 2. Lk. 20: 37, 38. Jo. 5: 28, 29. Acts 24: 15. I Cor. 15: 22, *seq.* [3]Acts 17: 31. II Tim. 4: 1. II Cor. 5: 10. Matt. 25: 31-46. Rev. 20: 11-15. [4]Lk. 16: 22-31. Mk. 9: 43-48. Rev. 20: 10. Matt. 25: 41. Thes. 1: 7-9. Rev. 14: 10, 11. [5]Ps. 16: 11. Lk. 23: 43. Matt. 25: 34, 46. I Pet. 1: 3-5.

ART. IX. We believe that Jesus Christ has a *Visible Church* in the world;[1] in which the terms of membership are a public profession of faith in Christ,[2] sustained by credible evidence in the daily life and religious belief.[3]

[1]Matt. 16: 18; 18: 17. Acts 2: 47. Gal. 1: 2. Eph. 1: 22, 23. I Tim. 3: 15. [2]Matt. 10: 32, 33. Acts 8: 37. Rom. 10: 9, 10. Heb. 10: 23. [3]II Tim. 2: 19. Matt. 7: 18-20. I Jo. 5: 1-4.

ART. X. We believe that the Christian Sabbath is a divine institution,[1] vital to the welfare of the Church,[2] and to the highest prosperity of every community,[3] requiring us to abstain on that day from all worldly toil,[4] except works of necessity and mercy,[5] and to spend the day in divine worship,[6] religious improvement and rest.[7]

[1]Gen. 2: 1-3. Ex. 20: 8-11. Mk. 2: 27, 28; 16: 9. Jo. 20; 19, 26. Ps. 118: 24. Rev. 1: 10. Acts 20: 7. [2]Isa. 56: 2, 6, 7. [3]Isa. 58:

13, 14. Jer. 17 : 24-27. [4]Ex. 20 : 10, 11; 23 : 12. [5]Matt. 12 : 1-5. 11, 12. Lk. 13 : 11-17. Jo. 5 : 5-16. [6]Ezek. 46 : 3, 4. Lev. 23 : 3; 24 : 8. II Chr. 2 : 4. Mk. 6 : 2. Lk. 4 : 16-32. Acts 13 : 14, 15, 27, 44; 15 : 21. Heb. 10 : 25. [7]See [4].

ART. XI. We believe that the special ordinances of the Church are Baptism [1] and the Lord's Supper; [2] the first of which is to be administered to none but believers[3] and their infant children,[4] the second to believers only.[5]

[1]Matt. 28 : 19. Acts 2 : 38; 22 : 16. [2]Matt. 26 : 26-30. I Cor. 11 : 23-26. [3]Acts 8 : 37; 10 : 47, 48. [4]Gen. 17 : 7, 10-13. Ps. 103 : 17, 18. Rom. 15 : 8. Heb. 8 : 6. Gal. 3 : 29. Matt. 19 : 14. Acts. 2 : 39; 16 : 14, 15, 29-33. I Cor. 1 : 16; 7 : 14. [5]Matt. 26 : 20. I Cor. 11 : 27-30; 5 : 7, 8.

Form for the Admission of Members,

UPON CONFESSION OF FAITH.

The names of those who desire to enter the Church upon Confession of their Faith, having been read, they present themselves before the Table of the Lord, and the minister addresses them as follows:

Beloved Friends: In obedience to the command of Christ, and His promise that "Whosoever shall confess Me before men, him will I confess before my Father which is in Heaven," you now desire to make a public Profession of your Faith in Him. The act you now perform is great and solemn, and in its influence will be eternal. The vows which you have made in secret, you here, in public, are to confess and ratify. Within these walls which have been dedicated to God; before these human witnesses of your faith; beneath that cloud of unseen spirits, whose hearts rejoice at your repentence; under the view of Him who died, but who now liveth forevermore, your risen Lord; you come, to take Christ's vows upon you, to own yourselves His glad disciples, and to enter into communion and fellowship with His Church.

The following is the summary of Christian Doctrine, adopted by this Church:

[Here read The Confession of Faith.]

All this, for substance of doctrine, you heartily profess and believe.

[The candidate assents by bowing.]

[Those who are to be baptized will here receive the Sacrament of Baptism.]

You will now publicly enter into Covenant with God and this Church.

Covenant.

In the presence of God, His holy angels, and this assembly, you solemnly avow the Lord Jehovah, Father, Son and Holy Ghost, to be your God, the object of your supreme affection, and your portion forever. You cordially acknowledge the Lord Jesus Christ as your only Saviour; and the Holy Spirit as your Sanctifier, Comforter and Guide. You humbly and cheerfully devote yourselves to God, in the everlasting covenant of His grace; you consecrate all your powers and faculties to His service and glory; and you promise that, through the assistance of His Spirit, you will cleave to Him as your chief good; that you will give diligent attendance to His word and ordinances; to family and secret prayer, and the observance of the Sabbath; that you will seek the honor and interest of His kingdom; and that henceforth, denying all ungodliness, and every worldly lust, you will live soberly, righteously and godly in the world.

[Individuals joining by letter will be here introduced.]

You do now cordially join yourselves to this Church of Christ, engaging to submit to its scriptural discipline, to walk with its members in charity, meekness and love, and to strive earnestly for its edification and purity.

This you severally profess and engage.

Most affectionately, now, do we, the members of this Church, receive you to our communion.

[Here all members of the Church rise, to signify their participation in the welcome given to those who are received.]

With praising hearts we now own you as our kindred in Christ. We welcome you to all the ordinances and privileges of His Church. We break with you this Bread of Life. We share with you this Cup of Blessing. We ask your aid in turning to our Master the souls of others. And, on our part, we covenant with you, to offer for you our prayers; to walk with you, in sorrow or in joy, while you are with us, as Christian friends, seeking advice and strength from you, and giving in return the counsel and the aid which you may ask. We promise gladly to render our offices of love; and in all ways, so far as in us lies, to seek your growth in knowledge and in grace, your sweet and calm experience of Christ's love, your perfect meetness for the Heavenly Home!

[Here the minister will give the right hand of fellowship to each.]

And now, beloved, we commend you unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named; that he would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might by His Spirit in the inner man; that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth and length and depth and height, and to know the love of Christ which passeth knowledge; that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God.

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead the Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ.

Now unto Him who is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory, with exceeding joy, to the only wise God, our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. AMEN.

Form for the Baptism of Children.

Immediately after the Invocation, at the opening of the Morning Service on the appointed Sunday, or at the Preparatory Lecture, an invitation is given to parents to present their children for Baptism. The Minister addresses the parents in substance as follows:

You, who now present your children, to receive upon them the seal of God's covenant, confess yourselves believers in God and in His Son, and in the verity and the continuance of His promise to His children, to be a Father to them, and to their seed after them. You covenant, on your part, in the presence of God, and of these witnesses, to train these children, whom he hath given you, in the nurture and admonition of the Lord; to instruct them in the knowledge of all Divine Truth, as you may have opportunity, but especially in the way of salvation through Jesus Christ; to walk before them daily, as God may give you grace, in the cheerful and holy beauty of the Christian life; to seek, as your chief end concerning them, their renewal of heart, and their salvation in the Redeemer; and to labor, in all ways with devout and prayerful endeavor, to prepare them to accomplish God's will on earth, and to enter His rest and glory in the skies. DO YOU THUS PROMISE?

As the Minister of Christ, then, I baptize them, "in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost."

After the children have been baptized, prayer is offered by the Minister, and a chant is sung by the choir, as the parents, at the close of the prayer, withdraw.

[The name of the child must be given to the Minister in writing, with the date of its birth, and the names of its parents.]

Ecclesiastical Principles and Rules.

I. RIGHTS OF THE CHURCH.

This Church regards the Scriptures as the only infallible guide in matters of Church order and discipline; and is, therefore, so far as relates to its internal organization and the regulation of its affairs, independent, and amenable to no other ecclesiastical body, except by its own consent, and in accordance with established Congregational principles. With these exceptions, it controls the admission, discipline, and removal of its members, according to its own understanding of the Word of God.

II. CONNECTION WITH OTHER CHURCHES.

This Church will extend to other Evangelical Congregational Churches, and receive from them, that fellowship, advice, and assistance, which the laws of Christ require. It will extend the usual rights of communion, and practice the usual transfer of members, according to its conviction of duty. It holds itself bound to regard the decisions of Mutual Councils, and to seek the promotion of peace with all the Churches of our Lord Jesus Christ.

III. ADMISSION OF MEMBERS.

All persons who desire to make a profession of religion, and to unite with this Church, shall be examined by the Examining Committee, before such members of the

Church as desire to be present, with reference to their Christian experience, and to their doctrinal opinions. The names of such as are approved shall be propounded to the Church, in the presence of the congregation, at least one week previous to their admission; and they shall become members by a vote of the Church, on giving public assent to the Confession of Faith and covenant, receiving the sacrament of Baptism, if they have not been before baptized to their acceptance.

Members of other churches, submitting the proper testimonials to the Examining Committee, shall be conferred with by them; and if approved, shall be also propounded before the congregation for one week, and be received, by a vote of the Church, on publicly entering into covenant with the Church.

A member who may know of any reason why a candidate for admission should not be received into this Church, shall first make such reason known to the Examining Committee, and not to the whole Church, unless the Committee refuse to act.

IV. DISMISSION OF MEMBERS.

Letters of dismission to Evangelical Churches shall be given, by vote of the Church, to all members in good and regular standing who request them.

The form of Dismission and Recommendation is as follows:

The First Congregational Church in Natick,
To the . . . . Church in . . . . Greeting:
This certifies that . . . . . is a member of this Church in good and regular standing. At . . own request . . dismissed from us and recommended to your Christian watch

and fellowship. When received by you . . . membership with us will cease. By vote of the Church,

. . . . . *Clerk.*

Members who remove their residence beyond the reach of this Church should, if practicable, at once transfer their relation to some other Church. If such do not apply for letters within one year from the time of leaving, satisfactory reasons must be given for the delay of the application, or they shall not be entitled to an unqualified certificate of good standing.

V. MEMBERS OF OTHER CHURCHES.

It is expected that members of other churches, residing and worshiping with us, and who may wish to commune with this Church, will request dismission from their respective Churches, and admission to this.

VI. RIGHTS OF MEMBERS.

Every member has a right to Church privileges, unless forfeited by misconduct; and when thus forfeited, he can be deprived of them only by regular process.

When a member is accused, he shall be seasonably furnished with a copy of the complaint, and shall have a full hearing. While the trial is pending, the accused is expected to abstain from participating in the Lord's Supper.

VII. DISCIPLINE.

1. Discipline shall be conducted according to the rules laid down in Matt. 18: 15-17, and II Thessalonians 3: 11-15.

2. Offences subject to discipline are, unchristian

conduct, neglect of acknowledged religious duty, and avowed disbelief in the vital principles of the Gospel of Christ.

3. It shall be a disciplinable offence to encourage the cause of intemperance by selling or using intoxicating liquors as a beverage, or renting buildings for that purpose.

4. In *private offences*, the offended one is, by a fraternal, prayerful conference, to seek a spiritual healing, and so to "*gain* the brother." Failing in this, let him take one or two more, and again strive to exert a loving, patient, healing power, which shall soften and subdue, and avert the necessity of resorting to the penalty of a Church trial.

5. In *public offences*, inasmuch as every member suffers in the wrongs done to the Church, every member cognizant of the same shall be responsible for laboring, in the spirit of Christ, to bring the offender to repentance, or, in failure of success, for communicating the case to the Church.

6. The presentation of complaints shall in all cases be first made to the Examining Committee, who shall, upon sufficient cause, prefer charges before the whole Church. And in case the Committee refuse so to do, the complainant may, nevertheless, if he insist upon the charges, present his complaint in person to the Church.

7. The methods of censure are private reproof, suspension from church privileges, withdrawal of fellowship, and excommunication.

8. Censure by suspension shall always be for a definite time, and any one sentence shall not be for more than six months. The time of suspension having

expired, the member is again entitled to church privileges, unless further action is taken by the Church.

9. Persons from whom fellowship is withdrawn may be restored to membership, and have their names replaced, by vote of the Church.

10. An excommunicated person cannot return to the Church, except upon profession of faith in Christ.

11. The method of censure by withdrawal of fellowship shall not be employed except for minor causes, not involving the person's moral character. In all cases of immoral, unchristian and scandalous behavior, sentence of separation shall be by excommunication.

AMENDMENTS.

1. That all absent members be corresponded with, and as far as possible, if in good and regular standing with us, be induced to unite with a church where they live.

2. If for proper reasons though absent they wish to retain their membership with us, they should so indicate by letter and be put on a so-called "Absent List."

3. All members absent from town, or persistently absent from church service, from whom we cannot hear or obtain a satisfactory report after due correspondence or interview, be by vote of the church put on a so-called "Retired List;" their names to be restored in case of the person reappearing and giving sufficient reason for such restoration.

4. All delinquent members who after proper Church interview and patient consideration, if residing in town, or after due correspondence if absent, neglect or refuse

to acknowledge their obligations, or honor their christian calling, be at the vote of the church dropped from membership.

VIII. OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES.

1. The stated officers of this Church, shall be Pastor or Pastors, Deacons, Clerk, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Auditor, Committee, and Superintendent of the Sabbath School. All of whom shall be elected by a majority ballot.

2. The Pastor shall be a member of this Church and the moderator of its meetings. In case there is no pastor, or in his absence, or during the consideration of matters affecting him personally, one of the deacons shall preside, or a moderator for the meeting may be chosen.

3. The term of the office of Deacon shall be eight years, one Deacon to be chosen every other year at the annual meeting. No deacon who has held the office for four years or more shall be eligible for re-election at the time his term of office expires, but he may again be chosen at any subsequent election. Their duty is to assist in the administration of the sacraments, to preside at the meetings in the absence of the pastor, to distribute the charities of the Church, and to look after the sick, the destitute, and strangers. Elections to fill vacancies shall be by ballot at a meeting called for the purpose.

4. No person shall be eligible to the office of pastor or deacon in this Church, who cannot give full consent to the Creed of the Church.

5. If a clergyman is employed to minister to this Church without installment by council, he cannot, con-

sistently with the principles of Congregational policy, be considered an officer of the Church. He shall not, therefore, act as moderator in the Church meeting, or serve on the standing committee, or represent the Church in any council, conference or other ecclesiastical body, except by vote of the Church.

6. The Examining Committee shall consist of the pastor, deacons, and five others, at least two of whom shall be ladies. It shall be their duty to provide for the examination of all candidates for admission to the Church; to advise respecting objects to be presented for benevolent contributions; to bring before the Church such cases and measures of discipline as shall be necessary, and to conduct any other business that may be referred to it by the Church.

7. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep distinct and full minutes of all the business transactions of the Church; a record of all receptions, dismissions and deaths of members; of all baptisms, both of infants and adults; of all non-resident members of this Church, with the length of time they have been absent; and he shall make a full written report of all these matters at the annual meeting of the Church. He shall also act as clerk of the Standing Committee; he shall conduct the correspondence of the Church; shall issue letters of dismission and recommendation, in accordance with its rules; shall have charge of its archives, and shall prepare and keep a proper catalogue and index of all its members.

8. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to take charge of all money contributed for the expenses and poor of the Church, and to disburse it under the direction of the deacons; to receive and pay over to the

proper officers all money contributed by the congregation to charitable objects, and to make at the annual meeting a written and detailed report of all receipts and payments, and so far as possible of the entire charities of the congregation, which report shall be audited by the auditor.

9. The Superintendent of the Sabbath School is an officer of this Church, and the choice of the school is not valid till approved by vote of the Church.

10. Besides the stated officers there may be chosen by the Church, a committee on religious papers, committee on monthly concerts and religious intelligence, ushers, and such other committees as at any time may seem desirable.

Standing Rules.

1. All meetings for business shall be opened with prayer.

2. All adult members of the Church, male and female, shall have a vote in all matters coming before the Church, and possess equal rights in it.

3. A meeting for the choice of officers and committees, and for other business, shall be held annually in the month of January. At this meeting the records of the last year shall be read, the catalogue of members revised, and accounts presented by the treasurer of all monies received, expended, or held by him on behalf of the church, during the year. Reports shall be presented by the clerk, the auditor, and the superintendent of the Sabbath School.

4. The annual and other regular meetings of the Church, for the transaction of business, shall be announced from the pulpit on the preceding Sabbath.

5. Special meetings may be called by the pastor, or by a majority of the deacons, or by the clerk at the written request of five members of lawful age.

6. Business may be transacted at any regular meeting of the Church. But no business of importance shall be transacted at any church meeting unless notice has been given from the pulpit on the previous Sabbath.

7. The Lord's Supper shall be celebrated on the first Sabbath of January, March, May, July, September, and November. It shall be preceded by a preparatory ser-

vice during the week previous. The invitation to the Lord's Table shall be such as to include all who love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity, and who have made a public profession of their faith. The admission of members, together with the celebration of this ordinance, shall constitute the services of the afternoon.

8. The Sacrament of Baptism shall be administered to the children of believers, ordinarily, on the morning of the Communion Sabbath, or at the Preparatory Lecture; and to adults, after they have publicly professed faith in Christ, (and before their approach to the Table of the Lord.)

9. A contribution shall be made at every communion service; and the fund thus obtained shall be used to defray the current expenses of the Church, and in assisting its necessitous members.

10. This Church will meet, for prayer and conference, every Thursday evening.

11. The Confession of Faith, Covenant, Forms of Admission, Ecclesiastical Principles and Rules, or Standing Rules, may not be altered, except by a vote of two-thirds of the members of the Church, of lawful age, present and voting at a meeting, due notice of which has been given on the previous Sabbath.

Constitution and By-Laws

OF THE NATICK CONGREGATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL.

ARTICLE 1. This school shall be called the First Congregational Sabbath School of Natick.

ART. 2. The officers of the school shall consist of a President, Superintendent, one or more Assistant Superintendents, Secretary, Treasurer, Librarian and Executive Committee for the whole school, and the Superintendents of the Intermediate, Primary and Kindergarten departments, together with such assistants and additional officers as may be needed.

ART. 3. The Pastor of the church shall be President of the school and preside at the annual meetings if present.

ART. 4. The Superintendent of the whole school must be a church member, and shall be elected at the regular session of the school on the second Sabbath of December in each year, to hold office from the first of January following.

ART. 5. All officers and teachers, and all the scholars of the senior department may vote for Superintendent and at the annual meeting.

ART. 6. The teachers of the primary department shall elect a Superintendent and such other officers as are required for the department in December previous to the annual meeting.

SECTION 2. The choice of superintendent shall be subject to the approval of the whole school.

ART. 7. All other officers of the school shall be elected by ballot at the annual meeting to be held after the last Sabbath in December and prior to the first Sabbath in January, and shall hold office from the first Sabbath of January following.

ART. 8. Any vacancies may be filled by the Executive Committee.

ART. 9. The superintendent on the first Sabbath of December, in each year, shall appoint a committee of three or more members of the Sunday school to nominate suitable persons for the remaining offices of the school, to be voted for at the annual meeting.

ART. 10. The Executive Committee shall consist of the president, the superintendents of all departments, the assistant superintendent, the secretary, treasurer, librarian and two others to be elected from the school at large, and shall constitute an advisory board for the school; five shall constitute a quorum.

ART. 11. The Executive Committee may incur bills for the current and necessary expenses for the school.

ART. 12. The school shall be reorganized on the last Sabbath of December in each year.

ART. 13. Annual reports in writing shall be submitted at each annual meeting by the superintendents of each department, the secretary, treasurer and librarian; these reports shall be filed with the clerk of the parish for record.

ART. 14. A discretionary fund of twenty-five dollars shall be placed at the disposal of the superintendent, to be used for the best interests of the school.

ART. 15. This constitution may be amended or altered by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting at any regular business meeting, provided notice of such proposed changes shall have been given on or before the Sunday previous to such meeting.

List of Resident Members.

A

Adams, John R.
Adams, Jane R.
Adams, Frederick C.
Adams, Jessie R.
Allen, Joel
Allen, Mrs. Robert K.
Ambler, Harriet A.
Ambler, Fred
Ambler, Mary F.
Ambler, Fanny W.
Ambler, Olive C.
Ambrose, Esther D.
Atkinson, Frank
Atkinson, Mary L.
Atwood, Irene

B

Babb, Mark B.
Babb, Charlotte J.
Babcock, Keziah F.
Babcock, Edith
Babcock, Annie F.
Bacon, Harriet F.
Bacon, Amelia A.
Bacon, Nancy C.
Bacon, J. Spaulding
Bacon, Leora A.
Bacon, Theodore S.
Bacon, Charles W.
Balcom, Henry L.
Balcom, Mary W.
Bartlett, Nathaniel
Bartlett, Oscar T.
Bartlett, Sarah T.
Bartlett, Maude S.
Bartlett, Walter O.
Bartlett, Nettie L.
Bartlett, George L.
Bartlett, Emma A.
Bartlett, Ellen H.
Bartlett, Louise E.
Bartlett, Grace E.
Beal, Melinda
Bean, Gertrude A.
Bearse, Florence E.
Beyers, Margaret
Bigelow, Mary E.
Bigelow, Mary L.
Bigelow, Martha A.
Bigelow, Florence
Bigelow, William R.
Bigelow, Gertrude
Bigelow, Margaret L.
Bowers, Charles W.
Bowers, Delia A.
Bowers, Orlando C.
Bowers, Russell E.
Bowers, Jennie M.
Bowers, James W.
Bowers, Charles W.
Brierley, George
Brierley, Hannah
Brierley, Hattie
Brigham, Nancy H.
Brock, John M.

Brooks, Mary J.
Brooks, Mary L.
Brookings, Josephine M.
Brookings, Sadie E.
Brookings, Bessie
Brown, Edward
Brown, Sarah M.
Brown, Frank O.
Bryant, Annie E.
Bryant, Cora
Buchannan, Frank S.
Buchannan, Mary
Buell, Nellie
Buoncore, Lewis
Buoncore, Mrs. Lewis
Burks, Emma E.
Burks, Ernest W.
Burks, Alice W.
Burnett, Charles W.
Burnett, Hattie C.
Burnett, Ethel H.

C

Carter, Octivia
Chamberlain, Susan
Childs, Sarah J.
Clark, Caroline M.
Clingan, Mary
Cobb, William W.
Colburn, Emma C.
Colburn, Effie M.
Colburn, Gertie
Colburn, George
Colburn, Laura E.
Conant, Jennie S.
Coolidge, William L.
Coolidge, Sarah I.
Coolidge, Leander
Coolidge, Edward E.
Coolidge, Sarah A.
Coolidge, Sarah J.
Coolidge, Miriam B.
Coolidge, Mary E.
Coolidge, Thomas E.
Coolidge, Sarah
Coolidge, Nellie
Cook, Dr. Charles H.
Cook, Rose S.
Cooke, Carrie M.
Coughlan, Clarinda
Coughlin, Marion
Crawford, Arthur B.
Crawford, Abbie J.
Critcherson, Mary A.
Cupples, John
Cupples, Elizabeth
Cupples, Annie M.
Cupples, Frank L.

D

Dakin, Ellen M.
Damon, Josephine T.
Davis, Minnie E.
Deering, Emma
Deering, Annie B.
Deland, Martin V.
Deland, Elizabeth H.
Drury, Ella M.
Dudley, Ellen R.

E

Eaton, Simon K.
Eaton, Sophia
Eaton, Lila S.
Eaton, Sarah A.
Eaton, Harriet B.
Eldridge, Ella F.
Eldridge, Eva A.

Elkins, Mary A.
Ellis, Julia A.
Emanuelson, Celia
Emanuelson, Theresa M.
Emanuelson, Pauline
Emanuelson, Emily
Embree, Jessie L.
Emery, Edna Belle
Emery, John
Emory, Eunice C.
Emory, Mae C.
Emory, Hugh D.
Emory, Ina
Estabrook, George D.
Estabrook, Frances D.
Estabrook, Herbert W.

F

Farwell, Royal E.
Farwell, Martha
Farwell, Mildred B.
Favor, Jacob
Favor, Josephine
Favor, Minnie
Favor, Lillian
Favor, Emma M.
Felch, Isaac K.
Felch, Martha L.
Felch, Sarah G.
Finley, Albert P.
Finley, Margaret
Finley, Ida
Finley, Addie B.
Finley, Eleanor N.
Fiske, Ellen L.
Fiske, Thos. F.
Fiske, Mabel J.
Fiske, Alice
Fisher, George
Fisher, Sarah J.
Flagg, Lucy A.
Forbush, Frank M.
Forbush, Annie L.
Forbush, Emily A.
Forbush, Emilie B.
Forbush, Gayle T.
Forbush, Grace H.
Ford, Annie B.
Ford, Nellie
Forrest, John
Forrest, Jean B.
Fox, Ellen S.
Fox, Nellie L.
French, Annie H.
French, Josephine
French, Harry W.
French, Howard D.
Frost, Maude
Frost, Alice M.
Frye, Isabel A.

G

Gale, Isabel
Gardner, Augustus S.
Gatchell, Caroline
Gibbs, Harry F.
Gibbs, Clara
Gleason, Harry L.
Glidden, Mary B.
Glidden, Lillian M.
Glidden, Nellie G.
Goodnow, Fanny B.
Goodnow, Grace A.
Graham, William
Graham, Mrs. William
Gramkow, Ernest
Gramkow, Florence L.
Gray, Nellie F.

Gray, Frederick
Gray, Gertrude
Gray, Henrietta
Greene, Marietta
Greenwood, Susie S.
Gurney, Alger M.
Gurney, Anna E.

H

Haggett, Charles H.
Haggett, Carrie M.
Haggett, Charles W.
Haggett, Carena
Hall, John
Hall, Agnes
Hall, Cynthia A.
Hall, Charles B.
Hall, Jennie L.
Hall, Maude L.
Hall, Blanche M.
Hall, Susie V.
Halgren, Selma M.
Hammond, Grace
Hand, Elizabeth F.
Hand, Marion F.
Hand, Kate C.
Hand, Grace
Hanchett, Minnie
Hanchett, Grace M.
Harnden, Julia E.
Harnden, Abbie G.
Harnden, Edith N.
Harwood, Harrison
Harwood, Adeline G.
Hayes, Mary S.
Hayes, Edgar S.
Haynes, Lizzie B.
Haynes, Charlotte
Hill, Isaac N.
Hill, Abbie J.
Hildreth, Cora J.
Himes, Mrs. T. M.
Hoffman, Lena C.
Holbrook, Isabel S.
Holbrook, Goldwin P.
Holbrook, Jessie
Hosmer, Bertha F.
Houghton, Francis E.
Houghton, Mary E.
Houghton, George G.
Houghton, Bessie A.
Howe, Gilbert W.
Howe, Persis A.
Howe, Eleanor C.
Howe, George C.
Howe, Jennie E.
Howe, Zillah A.
Howe, Lucindia M.
Howe, Annie A.
Hudson, Clarence
Hudson, Bertha I.
Hunter, Laura M.
Hunter, Julia F.
Hunnewell, Emma M.
Hume, Mary E.
Hume, Emma A.
Hume, Nellie A.
Hutchinson, Emma M.

I

Ingraham, Mrs. Harriet
Ingraham, Hattie A.

J

Jenks, Caroline A.
Jennings, Elizabeth L.
Johnson, Charles W.
Johnson, Sarah

Johnson, Agnes
Johnson, Bessie J.
Johnson, Christina
Johnson, Barthomene N.
Jones, Charles H.
Jones, Anna
Jones, Mabel A.
Jones, Bertha R.
Jones, Charles Waldo
Jones, Mary C.
Jones, J. Frank
Jones, Nettie E.
Jones, Susie E.
Jones, Julia F.
Judkins, Lois

K

Kendall, George
Kimball, Mary
Kimball, Harry F.
Kinsman, Ann S.
Klein, Walter J.
Klein, Minnie
Knights, Ambrose D.
Knights, Emma A.
Knowles, Nellie

L

Lamoine, John
Lamoine, Maggie
Lamont, John
Lamont, Mrs. John
Leach, Sarah G.
Leavitt, Frank
Leavitt, Mrs. Frank
Leavitt, Mildred
Leland, Calvin
Leland, Annie M.
Lincoln, Elizabeth M.
Loker, Walter F.
Loker, Carrie L.
Loker, Albee E.
Loker, Elizabeth O.
Loker, Frederick S.
Loker, Marion M.
Lyford, Willoughby C.
Lyford, Ada A.

M

Mahard, Josephine
Mansfield, J. Frank
Mansfield, Maria A.
Mansfield, Alice G.
Mansfield, Fred P.
Mann, Mrs. C. A.
Markham, Mrs. Louis H.
May, Roxanna
McCorrison, Mary A.
McCracken, Susanna
McCracken, Louis C.
Mead, Alfred
Mead, Anna M.
Messenger, Louisa
Miles, Alonzo
Miles, Susan J.
Miles, Hannah A.
Mills, Eliza J.
Mills, Rebecca
Montgomery, Robert
Montgomery, Hannah P.
Montgomery, Olive A.
Moore, Sarah E.
Morey, Thomas J.
Morey, Augusta
Morrison, Annie M.
Morrison, Maude L.
Morrison, Harry P.
Morse, George

Morse, Mary A.
Morse, Susan L.
Morse, Alice M.
Morse, Electa A.
Morse, Harriet A.
Morse, Hannah U.
Morse, Walter
Morse, Susan M.
Mortimer, Emma A.
Mulligan, Mina R.
Mulligan, Annie L.
Murphy, Emma J.

N

Nash, Mary G.
Nason, Mary E.
Nichols, Mary E.
Nicholson, Mary A.
Nicholson, Effie A.
Nutt, Abbie P.
Nutt, Maude

P

Parlin, Asher
Partridge, Annie M.
Partridge, Emily R.
Partridge, Mira R.
Patton, Maggie
Pebbles, Riley
Pebbles, Abbie M.
Pelton, David H.
Pelton, Christy
Peoples, Esther
Peoples, Samuel L.
Peoples, Mary
Peoples, Ellen
Perry, Eva E. W.
Pond, William H.
Pond, Susie W.
Pond, Almira L.
Pond, Winthrop A.
Pond, Harry L.
Potter, Horace H.
Potter, Martha A.
Potter, Arthur L.
Pratt, Abigail E.
Pratt, Priscilla
Pratt, John H.
Pratt, Mrs. John H.
Pratt, Georgianna E.
Pray, Hannah N.
Pray, Gertrude
Pray, Grace
Prescott, Sylvia E.
Prescott, Lena H.
Preston, Edward C.
Preston, Jennie F.
Pulsifer, Frank F.
Pulsifer, Myrtie T.
Pulsifer, Mrs. Edgar

R

Randall, Robert H.
Randall, Bertha L.
Randall, Clara
Randall, Calvin E.
Randall, Caroline P.
Randall, Etta H.
Ray, Jennie
Reed, Isabella
Reed, Flora Belle
Rice, Martin
Rice, Mary C.
Rice, Flora B.
Richards, Mrs. L. A.
Richards, Mattie A.
Roberts, Myrtle A.
Robinson, Walter B.
Robinson, Clara F. M.

Robinson, Charles Fred
Robinson, Ella F.
Robinson, Ethel
Robinson, Annie J.
Robinson, Arthur W.
Robinson, Mary
Rose, Henry H.
Rose, Lydia A.
Russell, Eliakim T.
Russell, Lydia
Russell, Theo F.
Russell, Stella L.
Ryan, Catherine A.

S

Sanger, John L.
Sanger, Althea P.
Saunders, Elisha B.
Sawin, Jennie A.
Sawin, Bertha H.
Sawyer, Mabel
Scheuppen, Mary
Shattuck, Etta F.
Sherer, Roxanna M.
Smith, Henry C.
Smith, Mabel
Smith, Irving W.
Smith, Mrs. Irving W.
Spooner, Susan E.
Spooner, Frank B.
Springer, Gertrude E.
Staples, Ella
Stevenson, Benjamin F.
Stevenson, Eunice S.
Stevens, Emma A.
Stevens, Gertrude A.
Still, Ellen C. H.
Stone, Hannah F.
Stone, Leonard P.
Stone, M. Fanny
Stone, Florence G.
Stone, Mary I.
Stone, Isabel M.
Story, Dr. A. Francis
Story, Flora M.
Stratton, Martha I.
Stratton, Susie E.
Sturgis, Rev. Fred E., D. D.
Sturgis, Lulu L.
Sturgis, Mabel

T

Tash, Rebecca D.
Tash, Wm. H.
Tash, Louise J.
Tenney, Hiram A.
Tenney, Mrs. Hiram A.
Thompson, Edward C.
Thompson, Minnie L.
Tiffany, Fanny
Tiffany, Gertrude E.
Tiffany, Olive L.
Tilton, Ede Louise
Tilton, Iola B.
Towne, Wm. I.
Towne, Mary E.
Travis, Issac N.
Travis, Ellen M.
Travis, Susan M.
Travis, Grace L.
Travis, Grace W.
Travis, Ferdinand A.
Travis, Elliot
Travis, Eugene E.
Travis, Ellen Abbie
Travis, Lillian E.
Tripp, Warren E.
Turner, Erdix T.

Turner, Mary L.
Turner, Sarah B.
Turner, Grace A.
Twitchell, Mary E.
Tyler, Frank H.
Tyler, Mrs. Eva
Tyler, George H.

U

Underwood, Charles
Underwood, Jane M.
Underwood, Mary H.
Underwood, Martha E.
Underwood, Alice
Underwood, Justin H.
Underwood, Frank E.

W

Walcott, Lucy M.
Walcott, Rose C.
Walcott, Cornelia C.
Walker, Hannah
Walker, Anna A.
Wardwell, Almira A.
Washburn, Dexter
Washburn, Grace I.
Waters, Simeon H.
Waters, Mary P.
Waters, Arthur H.
Watts, Samuel
Watts, Lucy
Watts, Frank H.
Watts, Hattie F.
Wells, Martha Z.
Wentworth, Lydia B.
Whitcomb, Charles H.
Whitcomb, Daisy May
Whitney, Sarah F.
Whitney, Lizzie M.
Whitney, Howard F.
Whitney, Nellie
Whitney, Mary E.
Whitney, Nellie A.
Whitney, Louis M.
Whitney, Mrs. Louis M.
Whitney, Hattie M.
Whittemore, Gertrude M.
Wight, Phebe W.
Wight, Mary S.
Wight, Lucy Ellen
Wight, Isabella L.
Wight, Sarah O.
Wight, Nellie K.
Wilde, Joseph
Wilde, Susan
Wilde, Frank T.
Wilde, Dana E.
Wilde, Eva L.
Williams, Hattie B.
Wilson, John O.
Wilson, Mary
Wilson, Nellie F.
Wilson, Ella M.
Wilson, Helen
Wilson, John E.
Wilson, Ernest T.
Wilson, Mrs. Ernest T.
Wilson, Aaron A.
Wilson, Edward H.
Wilson, Sarah E.
Winch, Leonard
Winch, Valetta A.
Winkler, Edward
Woods, Oliver
Woods, Martha J.
Woods, Ida E.
Woods, Frank E.
Woods, Clara

Woodward, Mary E.
Wright, Harriet H.
Wright, Grace R.
Wright, Frank S.
Wright, Hattie F.

Y

Yeo, Jennie
Young, S. Florence

Absent List.

Babcock, Susan R.
Bass, Calista M.
Boutwell, Nellie Booth
Clarke, Charlotte A.
Coolidge, Wm. H.
Coolidge, Louis A.
Faye, Mae L.
Felch, Abbie
Fifield, Anna M.
Fifield, Ida L.
Fiske, David F.
Fiske, Addie V.
Ginder, Wm. E.
Gleason, Jane G.
Gleason, Clarence W.
Gleason, Catherine F.
Gleason, Ellen F.
Gray, Orabella
Hall, I. Freeman
Hall, Amelia G.
Hayes, Henry H.
Hooker, S. Augusta
Hutchinson, Persis
Jackson, Jennie
Knights, Francis M.
Knights, Grace A.
Knowlton, Lizzie J.
Lowe, Laura G.
Mingo, Sophia
Mingo, Bella
Morse, Edward W.
Morrison, Sarah E.
Morse, Melvin
Muhlig, Idella L. H.
Pebbles, Lucretia
Perkins, Geo. A.
Phillips, J. Alfred
Randall, George H.
Randall, Alice F.
Randall, Geneva M.
Russell, Dr. Fred W.
Staples, Ella B.
Sweetland, Mabel J.
Wetherbee, Annie
Wight, Abbie W.
Wilson, Lucy
Wilson, Harry M.

Retired List.

Baxter, Alexander
Bucknell, Martha
Cunningham, Caroline F.
Douglass, Elvira
Foster, Clara E.
Hall, Edward
Hanna, Margaret
Hayes, Geo. A.
McLeod, Murdock
Mead, Christopher
Nash, Hattie C.
Pease, Alfred
Pierce, Susan E.
Wood, Caroline C.